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1856

Memphis July 24th/56

Thursday Evening

Dear Father

I write in haste to inform or rather beg of you to wait for me to La Fayette next Tuesday. I hope will be quite convenient for there is nothing more disagreeable than riding from La Fayette in one of those old Buggies. I write in great haste as we are all well. Minnie is fat as a pig and hasn't forgotten Grand Pa. She looks at Cousin Leagues white head and likes to go to him.

Jimmie and all are well
at Quinn's. Cousin Sallie
making arrangements to go
to Cleveland between the
14th & 18th of August and will
be gone till late in the
fall. Till late is busy up
her things that she has for
her to do. Helen is at
Cousin Tracie's and seems
to enjoy herself much.
There are no definite ar-
rangements for her. I will
tell you all when we
come home. God bless
you all. Much love to every
one. Cora sends love to all
as do all.

Your ever loving child,
Jimmie.

Minnie sends kisses



Mr. A. G. Edmundson
Marshall Township
Important. Marshall City
Mississippi.

Memphis 4th August 1856

Mr. A. Anderson

Dear Sir,

I have your letter of
12th Inst. Your failure to take the
place as agreed upon will perhaps somewhat
disappoint me. Though I shall have
I presume no difficulty in making
disposition of it. You may therefore
consider yourself released from any
obligation to take it.

Very Respectfully
Marius J. Wright

near Huntsville 4th Aug 1896

My own dear brother

After tossing on my bed until twelve o'clock last night, I determined to write you once more on the subject of that dreadful monster that is crushing you soul & body - My dear dear brother you must quit drinking - quit by the force of will & determination - by main force - the force of a man, of a husband & a father - You can quit - No one need tell me you cannot - I have watched & thought & felt too much about this thing (drinking) to be mistaken - When ever the motivation is stronger than the love of indulgence you are safe - then "enter not into the paths of the wicked, & go not into the way of evil men - Avoid it - pass not by it - turn from it & pass away". This advice of the wise man would lead you steps. Do not leave your room if you can't be - you are strong enough - All we ask if you can gain in the spiritual martial conflict with this tyrannical soul destroyer. My own dear brother give it up - determine that you will stop - God help you! I am so nervous this morning I cannot write but I will write to dear Mollie soon.

This summer has been very debilitating. It's been
very warm. School fielder has given up
drinking entirely. Has drunk none since he came
back. Is now elected magistrate. Volving well
Wyley is going down down. James has been talking
of writing you the good news about the elections
for several days but you know how slow he is
about writing. You'll get it in the Glen.

Your Sister

W.B. Murray

AUGUST 6, 1856.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: It is not my purpose to enter upon a discussion of any of the political topics of the day. I desire to discharge a duty which could not have been performed at an earlier day of the session, without in some measure infringing upon the parliamentary rules of the House. I wish to call the attention of the Committee and of the country to the condition of things as they exist in the Territories of Oregon and Washington. It is not unknown to the Committee, that for nearly twelve months an Indian war has been raging throughout the length and breadth of those Territories—a cruel, merciless war, in which many lives have been sacrificed and whole settlements devastated.

But before I proceed to inquire into the causes of the war, I beg pardon for digressing so far as to notice a few remarks which fell from the senior member from Ohio (Mr. GIDDINGS) a few months ago, while the Army appropriation bill was under discussion. On that occasion he saw fit to allude to the war in Washington and Oregon in a tone condemnatory of the people of those Territories, and, among other things, gave us his idea of the Indian character generally, and of those west of the Rocky mountains in particular. Hear him: I read from his corrected speech published in the Appendix to the Globe, page 526: "I knew something of the Indian character in early life; I saw them in the war of 1812; many of them were attached to our army; I studied their strategy of war, and learned something of their conduct in times of peril; they never forget a kindness, nor do they ever forgive an injury. No class of people in the world are more grateful for favors * * * none more docile, none more hospitable than those of Oregon," &c.

Now, sir, I dislike to disturb such pleasing fancies. With all his experience and astute observation, he has been sadly imposed on in this particular. Such characters as he has described exist only in fancy. They figure prominently in Cooper's novels and Hiawatha, but they never roam the western wilds in flesh and blood. It will be news, indeed, to those familiar with the Indians of the far west, to learn that they "never forget a kindness." My own experience is, sir, (and it is composed of three years' constant, daily intercourse with them,) that they never *remember* one; and I venture to assert that such is the experience of nine-tenths of the white settlers in my Territory. Let us see how far the experience and

observation of a shrewd, observant, and efficient officer of the army, who has spent four or five years in the midst of these tribes, correspond with that of the senior member from Ohio, (Mr. GIDDINGS.) I read from the report of Captain Ingalls, as published with the "Message and Documents, 1855-'6, part 2," page 162:

"This region of country, from the lake through to California, is infested by nomadic tribes of Indians, generally of the lowest order of beings. They are troublesome and dangerous to stock-drivers who yearly pass over this route."

Again, on page 163 of the same document, Captain Ingalls says: "They are like the beasts that roam over these wilds—little removed from them in instincts and habits." And again, sir, on page 165, in describing a certain spot, he says: "I was charmed with the beauties of the place, though sadly reminded of the fate of poor Captain Warner (who was massacred here) by the numerous telegraph-fires of the *treacherous* Indians." I might go on, sir, until I had consumed my whole hour in reading extracts from the official reports of other officers of the army and of the Indian bureau, to show that the gentleman is altogether mistaken in his estimate of the character of the northwestern Indians. I could show that, so far from their "never forgetting a kindness," their whole character is composed of a subtle compound of cruelty, vindictiveness, treachery, and ingratitude. I shall not pretend to say what the character of the Indians was with whom the gentleman had to deal in early life, but I do say that if he is correct in his estimate of their virtues, there was a marked improvement in the race from 1776 to 1812, when the gentleman obtained his experience. That instrument which is so often appealed to on this floor and elsewhere to prove that "all are *'merciless Indian savages, whose known rule of warfare is undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes, and conditions.'*" Such was their character in '76, and such is their character at this day. What it was in 1812 I leave to the history of those times to determine—that history whose every chapter contains the bloody record of their cruel massacres.

But the senior member from Ohio (Mr. GIDDINGS) is sorely afflicted at the fate of Pee-pee-mox-mox. I shall not stop here to refute the exaggerated, nay, totally incorrect account (emanating from a certain quarter) of the death of that "proud and haughty chief." I merely wish to state one fact, and I state it for the especial benefit of the gentleman from Ohio, (Mr. GIDDINGS,) for I am sure it was unknown to him at the time he wrought his sympathies up to such a high pitch in behalf of this, and all the other chiefs who have engaged in war against the whites in Washington Territory. It is this: Is the gentleman aware that he has at this late hour of his political life espoused the cause of the *slave-holder*? Can it be possible that he has, at last, abandoned all his hostility to the upholders' and advocates of this institution? Why, sir, there is not such a *slavocracy* in the world as that which is composed of the head-men and leading families of these hostile Indians. There does not live a master who claims and exercises such absolute power over the person and services of his slave, as these "proud and haughty chiefs." Slavery in its most absolute form has existed among them by a positive law of the tribes from time "whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary." By that law the master is not only entitled to the services and acquisitions of his slave, but he claims and *exercises* the power of taking his life without being amenable to any law or custom whatever. This power, to take the life of a slave at pleasure, *has been actually exercised* by these same chiefs within a short time back, and long since the whites have settled in their midst. By these tribal laws there is no emancipation nor manumission. Nor is it possible for a slave to gain his freedom by escape into the jurisdiction of a neighboring tribe. No, sir, there is a fugitive slave law to return him to his master, without the benefit of trial by jury or *habeas corpus*. It is not the slave, sir, but the *slavocracy* with whom the people of my country are at war. I appeal to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GIDDINGS) if his sympathies are not all misplaced and his tears most sadly wasted?

But I must hasten on to the causes which led to this war. I have some personal knowledge myself of the commencement of these difficulties, but it is not my purpose to take the witness-stand. I shall not enter into a detail of circumstances connected with the first manifestations of hostilities on the part of the Indians, of which I am personally cognizant, because I wish to refute the many charges which have been industriously promulgated against the people of my Territory by *record evidence*. A high official functionary of the government—no less than the commander of the Pacific department of the army—has seen fit, in this connexion, to prefer charges against the people of Washington and Oregon Territories, which, if true, ought to, and will subject them to the severest animadversions of a civilized world. And how does he do it? Now, Mr. Chairman, I have no harsh word to say of General Wool, unless it be harsh to oppose unfounded assertion with official statements, unless it be harsh to contradict hearsay rumor by positive record testimony. I do not enjoy the honor of a personal acquaintance with General Wool, sir, but the history of his past life

and his party had been massacred by the Blackfeet, and Major Haller and his command had been defeated by the Snakes, in his recent expedition against them. Believing that the whites were about to be overthrown in every direction, and having for some time been disaffected towards them, they deemed that the proper moment had arrived to gratify their enmity."

General Palmer, Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Oregon, who went to the Dalles soon after the death of Bolon, for the express purpose of collecting reliable information in relation to the cause and extent of hostilities, sums up the result of his observations, as to the causes which led to the outbreak, in the following language, in an official communication to the Department, dated October 9th, 1855:

"There are several causes from which may be drawn reasons inducing the present state of disaffection among the Indians in Washington Territory, among which may be named the following: The Yakama Indians were represented in the Walla-Walla council by four of their principal chiefs, accompanied by a number of their leading men, all evidently at first opposed to entering into any negotiations for the sale of their country. After more than two weeks had been spent in trying to convince them of the importance and necessity of such a course in open council, they gave a decided and peremptory answer in the negative. But during the next week, by interviews with the chiefs separately, Governor Stevens induced them to agree to the terms of the treaty; and Kamiakin, who is declared by the treaty head chief of all the tribes and bands included in that purchase, came forward and signed the treaty, followed by the other chiefs. The head chief, however, stated at the time that he would not receive any of the goods promised, but that his people might take them.

"It is pretty evident that the signing of the treaty was adverse to the will of the nation, as expressed prior to the delegation's coming to the council, and that on the return of the chiefs they were beset by their people and denounced as traitors to their tribe. Two of the chiefs, Owhi and Skloo, evidently signed the treaty with great reluctance, and, after returning home and meeting with their friends, were easily induced to join in opposition to adhering to its provisions.

"The Klickitat tribe, whose country is included within the limits of this purchase, had declined attending the council, and were not represented by any of their tribe; and upon the return of those Yakama chiefs and people from the council, it is said the Klickitats were much enraged at the sale of their country without their knowledge or consent, and declared they would not abide by an agreement in which they had no voice."

Again, in an official communication to the Department, General Palmer, on the 25th of October, 1855, says:

"The evidences of a deep-rooted prejudice against our citizens prevail among all the tribes in middle and upper Oregon—the Nez Percés excepted. How far that feeling may be fanned and kept up by aliens from other countries, and their descendants, we are not able to judge; but that it does extend to the entire exclusion and occupancy of the country by our own citizens, is a fact undeniable."

Lieutenant Withers, U. S. A., who has been four years in the country, and who is well acquainted with the character of these Indians, and whose knowledge and judgment of such matters I would much prefer to General Wool's, in an official paper to the Adjutant General, dated November 12, 1855, writes as follows:

"In southern Oregon the Rogue river Indians, combined with some of those on the coast, the Umquas, Pitt-river, and Shasta Indians, have also broken out into a fresh war, and one of evidently intended extermination, against the whites. The causes leading to this may be different from those which excited hostilities in Washington Territory, where the motive was altogether political, and sprung from no actual grievance; but its result must, of course, be the same."

General Palmer again writes to General Wool on the 21st November, 1855, thus:

"As to the Yakamas, there is no excuse for their acts of aggression, and there is no disposition on the part of those engaged in the Indian department to screen them or their confederates from the punishment they so justly merit."

The next day (November 22) Captain Cain writes to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs in this wise:

"There is abundant evidence to my mind that this war has been contemplated by the Indians for the last three or four years, and I will take the proper steps to get the testimony in shape and submit it to your consideration at the earliest practicable moment."

Mr. Chairman, I might multiply this testimony to a tedious extent, all going to show, clearly, how utterly groundless is General Wool's charge against the miners of precipitating this war by "forcibly carrying away and ill-treating some Yakama squaws;" but I think I have read enough to satisfy any unprejudiced mind upon that point. Let it be remembered that all of these officers, from whose reports I have read extracts, were present in the country and well acquainted with the Indians, while General Wool was near a thousand miles distant for three months after the first acts of hostility were committed by the Indians.

I now come to speak of the manner in which this war has been conducted. And in this connexion I desire to notice an assertion which General Wool made in his official communication, and has reiterated in his newspaper correspondence, to the effect that "volunteers were unnecessary;" that they were called into service and sent to the Walla-Walla country "for no other purpose than to plunder the treasury of the United States, and to make political capital for somebody;" &c. Now, Mr. Chairman, one would naturally suppose that a

charge of so grave a nature would not be lightly made—would not be caught up from the baseless tales of idle rumor, and embodied in an official report by an officer commanding one of the departments of our army, without the shadow of a foundation, or the first scintilla of evidence to substantiate it. Yet such is the fact, for it rests upon the naked assertion of General Wool, and is contradicted by every act of the officers, volunteers, and citizens of the Territories, and by every circumstance connected with their operations. Gen. Wool has lent his once-high name, too, to a declaration as cruel and unfeeling as it has proved to be untrue, viz: that "the war is a god-send." Surely General Wool did not intend to mock at the calamity of these people. A god-send, indeed, Sir! To whom? How? Mr. Chairman, in the name of the gallant, noble, and lamented Slaughter, I protest against such cold, unmitigated calumny! In the name of the brave and generous Moses, I pronounce it a cruel slander. By the bleeding agony of those widowed hearts they have left behind them, I protest against it. In the names of Miles, McAlister, White, Northcraft, Brannan, Sinclair, Griswold, Hembree, Chinn, Lupton, and their comrades—in the names of *twenty murdered women and babes*, I protest against it. In the name of humanity I pronounce it cold, unfeeling and untrue. Whoever the author of such a sentiment may be, let him go through the world with the blood of *three hundred murdered citizens upon his skirts*.—But, says General Wool, these volunteers were unnecessary. Remember, General Wool was in California at the time they were called out, and it is not to be presumed that he could judge of the exigency as well as those who were on the spot. At the time of the outbreak, Maj. Raines was in command of the U. S. troops in this region: What did he think of the necessity for volunteers? I have time only to refer to the evidences on this point, and to state the main facts: the details are contained in the official despatches before me as published to the country. On the 9th of October, 1855, Maj. Rains writes to Gov. Curry that the expedition sent to the Yakama country under command of Maj. Haller, comprised of over 100 men, with a mountain howitzer, had failed; that "Maj. Haller was surrounded, and had called for reinforcements;" that he had "ordered all the United States disposable force into the field immediately;" that as "this force was questionable to subdue the Indians," he therefore called upon him (Governor Curry) for four companies of volunteers and upon Governor Mason for two. But General Wool attempts to get round this material point by asserting that "the Major (Raines) partook somewhat of the alarm pervading the country." If this were true, does it furnish any reasonable excuse for Congress refusing to pay the volunteers thus called into service, which seems to be the main object of General Wool's extraordinary publications? But was there no cause for this alarm? Had not Agent Bolon been brutally murdered by these Indians? Is it not a fact that Mattice and other miners had been massacred? And had not the Superintendents of both Territories officially reported the fact that there was a powerful combination of several of these tribes for the "purpose of exterminating" the whites? and that nothing short of a large military force could prevent a disastrous war? Did not Agent Olney, (who was at that time in the Walla-Walla country,) write to Governor Curry that the "storm was gathering;" that it required "a large military force to keep them back;" that "the regular force in the country was insufficient for the protection of the settlers;" that *one thousand volunteers should be raised immediately, and sent into this part of Oregon and Washington Territories*? Thus called upon as Governor Curry was, by the commanding officer of the United States troops, by each of the Superintendents of Indian affairs, and the Indian agent, who was personally present in the region where the troops were needed, yet General Wool, affecting a patriotic desire to protect the Treasury from "plunder" and "depletion," has the hardihood, in the face of these facts, to assert that the Governor "usurped his power;" that Major Raines "partook somewhat of the alarm pervading the country," and that "the volunteers were unnecessary to protect the citizens of Oregon." With these unmistakable evidences of impending peril to the whole country before him, Governor Curry would have been wanting in all those qualities which so eminently befit him for the position he holds, if he had not promptly responded to the call which was made upon him. Read the record, sir, of the privations and hardships these volunteers endured, and tell me if "plunder" could have inspired such heroism. Sir, if the commanding general's physical exertions to protect the settlers, had been at all commensurate with his newspaper efforts to delay Congress in taking favorable action in their behalf, he might have saved the lives of at least twelve men, women and children who fell at the Cascades.

Mr. Chairman, my time admonishes me that I must omit many things that I desired to say, and merely allude to others without stopping to comment upon them as they deserve. General Wool has shed much ink and expended no small amount of sympathy upon Pee-pee-mox-mox, the Walla-Walla chief, whom, he says, the volunteers "barbarously killed." For a full and complete refutation of General Wool's charges on this point, I refer the committee and the country to the official report of the gallant Col. Kelly, who commanded the volunteers in the memorable fight when Pee-pee-mox-mox fell. The facts as there related are simply these: The chief had been retained by Col. Kelly as a prisoner; his

warriors in large force attacked Col. Kelly (the volunteers *did not* commence the attack, as General Wool asserts;) in the midst of the fight, the chief and his companions rose upon the guard, wounded one them, and then it was that he was killed; and this is what General Wool calls "barbarous!" and seems to think that the fact that Pee-pee-mox-mox came into Col. Kelly's camp under a white flag, much enhances the "barbarity" of the killing. Let us see what General Wool thought of similar proceedings but a short time before. I will read his official account of a little affair which came off at Fort Boise, in Oregon, July 16, 1855. Speaking of Major Haller's expedition against the Snake Indians, he says:

"The command reached Fort Boise July 15, Mr. Olney, Indian agent, being with it. The next day a talk was held with some two hundred Indians there collected, of whom sixty-five were warriors; and it having been ascertained that four of the murderers were present, they were seized, brought before a board of officers, or, as Major Haller terms it, a military commission, and, their guilt having been clearly established, three were hung on the graves of their victims, the 18th; the fourth was shot by the guard in endeavoring to escape. The proceedings of the commission are herewith enclosed."

Here, sir, "a talk" was being held, four of the Indians present were "seized," "three were hung" on the spot, and "the fourth was shot by the guard in endeavoring to escape." Did it then occur to General Wool that there was anything *barbarous* in shooting a prisoner who attempted to escape? And it does not appear either that this prisoner made any attempt upon the life of the guard. Did it occur to General Wool then that there was anything irregular in hanging on the spot the other three prisoners who had come into the fort for the purpose of having "a talk"? Not at all. On the contrary, such conduct was to be highly applauded, and must needs be noticed in terms of praise in an official report to General Scott. Hear what General Wool says about it:

"The activity and energy of Major Haller, and the officers of his command, deserve commendation." It cannot be that General Wool means to imply that what is "barbarous" in volunteers, "deserves commendation" in troops of the regular Army. It is true General Wool, with all his knowledge and experience in every branch of his profession, was somewhat at a loss to find an appropriate name for the tribunal which *tried and hung* the other three prisoners, but he complacently adopts Major Haller's term for it, and calls it "a military commission!" What though it may have been somewhat *irregular*, yet as there were no *volunteers* present to give it a semblance of "barbarity," why, it "deserves commendation!!!" Now, Mr. Chairman, I do not wish to be misunderstood. I have not alluded to this affair for the purpose of condemning the action of Major Haller or the officers who accompanied him on that expedition. On the contrary, I believe with General Wool that they "deserve commendation," more especially for hanging these three murderers and for shooting the other when he attempted to escape. I know most of the officers who were in that expedition, and I believe I may safely say, if any one of them had had the control of the military operations in these Territories, many lives would have been saved, and the war might now have been at end. I have only referred to the matter for the purpose of exposing one of General Wool's many inconsistencies.

Mr. Chairman, I have no time to go into details; I must content myself with a simple denial of General Wool's charges, and appeal to the official papers on record to sustain that denial. He charges that the volunteers wantonly set fire to and burned the Atahnum mission: the official report shows that it was "accidentally" burned. He charges that the expedition to Walla-Walla was against *friendly* Indians: all the official reports show that the Walla-Wallas had driven off Mr. Sinclair, plundered the fort, divided the spoils, and with a force of nearly a thousand warriors, actually attacked Colonel Kelly's command before he had fired a single gun. He charges that white men violated a squaw and cruelly strangled a whole family of friendly Indians at the Cascades: I defy any one to prove it, for Major Haysleft that vicinity since General Wool charges the atrocity to have been committed, and in the public prints pronounces the whole affair a fabrication. He charges similar outrages upon Major Lupton and party, and for a complete refutation of such charges, I refer to Gen. Lane's speech in the House upon that subject. He charges that the war in Washington Territory was brought about by "some miners forcibly carrying away and ill treating Yakama squaws." He admits in the same letter that the "*Yakamas are the authors of the war.*" He charges that the war in the Rogue River country is wholly to be attributed to the whites; and on the 4th of September, in an official despatch to headquarters, (where) *an Indian shot a white man.*" At one moment the people are charged with being actuated by a desire to "plunder the public treasury," and in the next to gratify a bloodthirsty revenge. In one despatch we are told that the Walla-Wallas are friendly; the next mail brings the intelligence that, for four days, they have opposed, in open field, to Colonel Kelly's command *nearly a thousand* armed and painted warriors. Now they are peaceful—then they plunder the fort and lay waste the adjacent country. At one time the expedition to Walla-Walla is entirely

unnecessary, very soon, nay, at the very time, he regrets that the condition of his horses are such that he cannot send a force into that country. One week he has a sufficient force at his command to conquer from "150 hostiles a lasting peace"—the next, he calls upon Gov. Stevens for two companies of volunteers to assist him, when he *knows they cannot be furnished*. He denies his authority to call for volunteers, yet when it suits his purpose to do so, he claims that authority, and points to the instructions of the Secretary of War, dated 4th December, 1855, to sustain his claim. He utterly repudiated Major Raines's call; yet when no one asks it, and there are only "150 or 200 hostiles" to be subdued, he calls for two companies of volunteers to assist him. He denies the right of the Oregon volunteers to pay, because they had not been mustered into the service; yet he recommends that others be paid who were similarly situated. I defy the ingenuity of man to concoct such another heterogeneous medley of errors, inconsistencies, and contradictions. Truly, "whom the Gods would destroy, they first make mad."

Now, sir, I charge General Wool with having violated an express regulation of the Army, whereby he is liable to dismissal from the service. Here is the regulation:

"Private letters or reports, relative to military marches and operations, are frequently mischievous in design, and *always disgraceful* to the army; they are, therefore, strictly forbidden; and any officer found guilty of making such report for publication, without special permission, or of placing the writing beyond his control, so that it finds its way to the press, within one month after the termination of the campaign to which it relates, shall be dismissed from the service."

Lastly, I had desired to say something of the present condition of that country, growing out of this disastrous war—something of its physical beauties and advantages, its mild and salubrious climate, its bold, pure, running streams, its magnificent forests, and broad prairies, its rich valleys and snow-capped mountains—how "the earth teems with riches, and heaven smiles with beneficence," but the time allotted me will not permit. It is a *good* country, sir; one pleasant to live in; one worth defending and protecting. Her citizens are loyal, industrious, and law-abiding; they love this Union, and cling to the memories of their childhood homes. Every State in this confederacy has a representative there; every member of this committee has a constituent there. Will you abandon such a country? Will you forsake such a people? In the infancy of their settlements, they were weak when this war broke out upon them. The United States troops were too few to protect them. It takes months to get reinforcements from the Atlantic border. There was no other salvation for their wives and children than for the men to embody themselves in a little band for defence. With the helpless families in forts and block-houses and the men in the field, all agricultural pursuits were of necessity abandoned. Thus situated, their barns have been destroyed, their fields laid waste, and their dwellings committed to the flames of the Red man's torch. Great pecuniary distress—absolute want has been the consequence—aye, the Governor says, "starvation stares them in the face." I cannot believe that the Representatives of the people of this American Republic will withhold from their brothers in this distant land their simple dues. I cannot believe that they will refuse to pay these people for services which the government troops were bound to perform. If any one has been actuated by the desire of public "plunder," guard your bill so that the plunderer may not gain access to the Treasury. Will you withhold what is right, and proper, and just, merely because human nature sometimes develops itself in the form of depravity?

Afford the relief which the necessities of these people so loudly call for, and you will have discharged a duty, for which your constituents will applaud you, and mine will ever be grateful.

Helena Ark Aug 10. 1856

My Dear John

The obituary shall be published on our outside this week. When you wrote you had not rec'd my last letter. If you will take the counsel given in that in connexion with your own plan of remaining with Capt E. until Spring or fall even I think it would be well for you. And if you do remain there could you not write communications for my paper by way of giving practical employment to your mind? My object in writing this is to suggest that you will do so. There are now an abundance of subjects engaging the interest of the public upon which you might write in a very useful manner. I would like much to hear from you on the Federalism of Know Nothingism or the destructive ~~tendency~~ bearing of a West order upon the polit of our free Government - If you want any papers I can lend you some from almost every part of the Union, and if you would

like to read the foreign Reviews we get
them all & I could send them to you. If I
was able it would afford me extreme
pleasure to pay you a high price for
this. but you know I cannot do that.
But I do believe you will be amply repaid
before you are five years older if you
will just bend your mind to work -
Write me -

Best love to Mother Minnie & all
God bless you -

Your bro
Butler & Anderson

Address your letters to me individually -



John A. Anderson
Marshall Linspike
Miss

Helena Ark.

Aug 26. 1856

My Dear John

Yours of the 23rd enclosing
"Pith" No. 2. Came this morning. Accept my
most sincere thanks for them.

If my good opinion of your writing will
encourage you, be encouraged. You write with
a style of palpable independence which is sugges-
tive of thought to the thoughtful. In this super-
ficial, parading, steam-manufacturing age
that style pleases me above all others. There
is point and pith and power in your ideas
and a much more than ordinary smoothness
in your language. As your day practice will
remove the asperities if there are any. I like
your manner of spelling "know nothing" Is
it accident or intention? I am sorry if
you feel the want of document. Of course
I will take the liberty of correcting any
mistake I may discover. In your first I put
in and took out a word occasionally in order
to add force and power to your expressions.
In your second I changed but one word and made
no other corrections. With any other person

is not entirely unknown to me. I can read that history with pleasure; I can recall many of the stirring incidents of that life with pride as an American citizen. I know that the glory of his valorous deeds illuminates many pages of his country's history, and sheds lustre upon the triumph of American arms. I regret, sir, that the faithful chronicler of the present times will have to add a chapter to that history which will sadly contrast with its preceding pages.

I have inquired *how* has General Wool seen fit to appear before the public as the voluntary accuser of the whole people of two Territories? Has he been satisfied, in the discharge of his duties as a public officer, to confine himself to the usual official reports which the law requires him to make? Has he been called upon, by any of his superiors in office, for information upon points he has volunteered to elucidate? Not at all, sir. He appears before the country as a *volunteer* witness, and a *swift one at that*. Had he confined himself to the discharge of his *official duties*, I should not have deemed it my province to animadvert so freely upon his conduct; but as he has seen fit to lay aside all the dignity of official station, and voluntarily assume the character of a scribbling correspondent of a partizan press, I am sure he ought not to complain if his conduct, in this particular, should be subjected to the closest scrutiny, and his testimony to the most rigid cross-examination. Yes, sir, he has doffed the proud plume of the Major-General—unbuckled that sword, which, on foreign fields, had carved its way to fame, and snatched up the flowing pen of a ready scribbler, and appears before us in the garb of a hasty newspaper correspondent! Unmindful of the Army regulations—reckless of his former fame—bent on the gratification of personal spite, and that revenge which springs from mortified pride, in hot haste he rushes into the columns of the public prints, and there stoops to become the retailer of idle camp-gossip, and the maligner of sixty thousand American citizens! The deep humiliation which the contemplation of such a spectacle inspires is much aggravated and increased by a perusal of his several elaborate indictments. I shall only call the attention of the country to a few extracts from General Wool's newspaper correspondence, for the purpose of showing how widely he differs, in his statement of material facts, from every body else holding official position in the two Territories. Indeed his own official correspondence might be invoked for the purpose of showing his inconsistencies and errors, if better proof were not at hand.

In his letter to the National Intelligencer, dated at Benicia, California, April 2, 1856, Gen. Wool, in speaking of the causes which led to the war, makes use of the following language:

"It is said that the Yakamas, having become dissatisfied with the treaty made with them the summer before by Governor Stevens, determined on war. This was hastened, as it would seem, by some miners forcibly carrying away and ill treating some Yakama squaws."

Now, sir, it so happens that I was in the Yakama country only a few days before hostilities broke out. I had an interview with the chiefs of that tribe, and heard their complaints, but not one word was said about miners—or any one else—having "forcibly carried away and ill treated their squaws." And I will venture to assert that not a man, woman or child, in either of the Territories, ever dreamed that such a charge had been made, until the National Intelligencer of the 2d April, containing General Wool's letter, reached that coast—some seven months after the war had broken out. You may search the voluminous correspondence of Governors, Indian agents, and army officers, which has been called for by the House, and not the first intimation of any thing of the kind is to be found in any of them. I wish it to be borne in mind, Mr. Chairman, that in August, 1855, the first blood was shed in Washington Territory. A miner, on his way from Puget Sound to Fort Colville, having a good deal of money, provisions, &c., soon after passing beyond the limits of the Yakamas, was pursued by a party of Indians, massacred and robbed of everything he had with him. Shortly after, other murders were reported to have been committed in the Yakama country. In September, Indian Agent Bolon went into that country to ascertain something about these outrages, and he, too, was not permitted to return. He was murdered in the most cruel manner. When this occurred, there was no escaping the conviction that a general outbreak had been determined upon by the Indians. What had hitherto been conjecture now gave way to a sense of the fearful reality. About this time commences the official correspondence which relates to this subject—near three months before General Wool reached the country. Hear what Captain Cain says, who was at that time acting Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Washington Territory, during Governor Stevens's absence in the Blackfeet country. Let us see how Captain Cain's account agrees with General Wool's charge of "forcibly carrying away and ill-treating of Yakama squaws." In his official report, dated October, 6, 1855, to Col. Mannypenny, after referring to the particulars of Agent Bolon's death, and the manifest hostility of several tribes, he says, on page 193 of the Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs: *all the while we did not believe that the squaws were carrying away and ill treating the miners.*

"I attribute the cause of the outbreaks amongst the Yakamas and Klickatats to the rumors that have been afloat, and obtained credence among the Indians, that Governor Stevens

ing trip through St. Francis & Monroe Counties.
I shall be gone two or fifteen days - will have
such instructions as will have "Pettis" properly
attended to - When I get back I shall start up
to Red Sulphur to spend a week and bring Love
home - Patton & ~~Etta~~ et illis totis familias
will be there - You must get Moll & Minny, and
some of the folks ready to go up with me - I
shall stop at Bithwood for the purpose -

They were all well at the Red Sulphur when
last heard from - Haven't heard from Lex as for
an age - Heard from Astoria by last mail - Par-
ker beat old man Moffitt one vote for the Legis-
lature & the old man Contests - Cornelius (W) Car-
ried the County for the Council - Nearly all the peo-
ple have left - The vote stood Parker 66, Moffitt
65 in the whole County - A slight falling off -

Kiss Moll & Minny & present my regards to
all the fam -

Your brother
Butler P. Anderson

You see Sam has been slain - utterly demolished in
Ark. He is worse than Strong said the Location
Act was -

(2)

time of their passage, denounced by a large portion of the Southern people, because, though they did in effect, in the establishment of the Territorial Governments of Utah and New-Mexico - abrogate the Missouri Compromise of 1820, they did not ~~expressly~~ ~~repeal~~ in express terms, repeal that odious and unconstitutional restriction. The friends of those measures then, throughout the South, avowed that they did virtually repeal ~~that law~~ ^{that law} of 1820, and claimed on that very account, that the act was a triumph for the South.

Whether Mr. Fillmore expressed individually, these opinions or not, it does not matter, it is certain that his supporters at the South did; and it is also, certain that his enemies at the North, charged him with having signed the bill with that construction put upon it. The Kansas-Nebraska was passed in 1854, recognizing that as the proper meaning of the compromise measures, and in express terms repealing the old act of 1820.

When now do we find Mr Fillmore? He has declared
recently, that he regards that repealing clause in the
Kansas act, as the Pandora's box from which has
emanated all the evils that now threaten the Country.
It would seem then that he never believed the bill of '50
was in part, intended to effect the same thing, and that
he betrayed and deceived the South, in order that he
might secure his own preferment. But his friends now
say, although he condems the Nebraska bill, he is not in
favor of its repeal. The assertion is paradoxical, and
"of a piece" with his conduct touching the construction
of the compromise ^{measures} of '50. Besides the known - nothing
candidate for the Presidency, is pledged to veto no law
passed by Congress, unless he believes it to be unconstitutional.
Should the K. V. K. act be repealed by a Black Republican
Congress, does not every man know that Mr F. if President
would sanction that law.

But his friends refer us to his more recent record, while he was President of the U States, Let us take that, and by it establish his consistency upon the slavery question. We do not care at this time to examine other acts of Mr Fillmore's Administration, for there is but one issue involved in this canvass and that is the one we have been discussing. At another time we may perhaps refer to his inhuman "Cuba proclamation", which denounced fifty American Citizens as "Robbers and Plunders", and was the prime cause of consigning fifty of them, without trial to an ignominious death.

The Ceditated Compromise Measures of 1850, were passed during Mr Fillmore's Adm and received his sanction. It will be remembered by most of those who read this article, that those measures, men, at the

to this, or it will lead to nothing, or it will lead to any thing.

Thus much for Black Republicanism, or rather its avowed sentiments as we find them arrayed ~~now~~ at this time against the principles of the National Democratic party. Let it not be supposed that we think the great mass, or half of it, composing that party, are sincere advocates of the treasonable doctrines they promulge.

By no means; - we are thoroughly convinced that the majority are seeking preferment and the spoils of office, with the cherished hope, that they will soon be able to bind themselves together by that stronger ligament - "the cohesive power of public plunder."

But let us look for a moment at the position occupied by ~~at~~ another party seeking office, and one too, ~~which~~ ~~we~~ ~~honestly~~ believe advocating principles, which we honestly regard as ultimately, equally pernicious as those of the party whose merits we have briefly considered.

That the long established convictions of Mr Fillmore, as well as the, at present avowed sentiments, of his leading supporters at the North are, ^{as} thoroughly, and for aught the record shows to the contrary, earnestly 4

* upon ~~the~~ ^{other} ~~ideas~~ ^{more} ~~practical~~ ^{things}

+ In one sense abstract emanations, or emotions, or ideas, of the human mind, may be likened to God himself - the same yesterday, today, and forever; but essentially they are ~~outside~~ ^{within} Him, being ^{only} the attributes of finite creatures, ^{wholly dependent for efficiency &} ~~and lacking~~ ^{perfection}. Additions to, or subtractions from abstract ideas equally prove fatal; - the former renders them abstruse to mental perception, the latter leaves no feature recognizable by the mind. Hence the dreamy ^{intellect} ~~mind~~ resting in such a state, incapable of accomplishing any thing alone, ^{rejects all wholesome thought and} calls to its aid the base passions, and sinks, a wreck, beneath their ^{unp governable} ~~their~~ fury.

Without a combination of mental powers it is as impossible to accomplish any thing grand, as it would be futile to attempt the exercise of great physical ^{force} ~~power~~ by the single member of a single individual. The Abolitionist says Slavery is a moral evil, and forthwith, without reference to any ^{thoughts} ~~the~~ ^{idea} connected with the subject, and entirely forgetting or disregarding the means through and by which his object must be accomplished, he cries out vehemently for its abolition. It is, he seems to contend, morally right to eradicate this sin, though it be necessary, in the accomplishment of the object, to commit every other moral wrong known to the decalogue. His reasoning will lead

Abolition, we aver, is capable of the clear-
 est ~~proof~~ and most indisputable proof.
 It is not however, our intention to parade
 at this time, and in this letter, his black
 record, for it would take up too
 much space; and besides it has
 been published recently in almost
 every democratic paper from Maine
 to Texas, and from Florida to California.
 He voted for the Abolition of Slavery
 in the district of Columbia; - he voted
 for the Abolition of the Slave trade between
 the States; and has he ever retracted
 a sentiment, or acknowledged that he
 was in error in giving any vote that
 he cast while a Member of Congress.
 Is this not enough, and more than enough,
 to justify us in calling on every Southern
 man to condemn him?
 Both of these votes - Abolition votes "to the hilt" too,
 violated the most solemn and sacred prin-
 - ciples of the Compact between the States, to
 say nothing ~~to~~ of the direct attack which

I should never have taken that liberty. I shall send you all the documents I can, tho, I would suggest that your reference in these two articles, are sufficiently specific. Let any K. K. attempt to deny the positions you take and then we will refer to page & paragraph. In expressing yourself you sometimes use "I" and sometimes "we". This is not strictly correct, but in these two letters it is so plain an evidence of the earnestness and sincerity of your belief that I have not changed it. Now I, at given you hastily and frankly (as I know you would not wish it otherwise) my notions about your writing & I'll make but one other suggestion - take your time. Find out when your mail comes into Memphis and send your letters in there so as to get them to that office Sunday night or Monday morning. Then we are certain to get them Tuesday morning. Your first came on Friday the day after publication and the second came the following Tuesday. This you see will throw them both into one issue if we have room, & therefore detract from their influence. Neither of them is too long. Ten pages of your writing will make about two columns in our paper. Your articles should be from one to two columns in length.

I leave to tomorrow morning on a prospect.

Mon. Oct. 22 / 37
Mrs. Key bet

I hope you will find
 the enclosed card to your
 satisfaction.

of. I trust it shall
be so. I am,
Dear Sir, your
obedient servant.
I have no more to write at present.

Yours most Respectfully
Wm. Estlin
of N. H.

Dear Mother -
On My return home I saw
a note from Alex Harris introducing
this Mr. Parker and saying he would speak
with me the Parker but not being here I been
unable. So Tuesday this letter came
~~to me~~ ~~it~~ I replied I could engage
in no suit with out denouncing the
nature and object of that suit.
I had hoped business would call
you up to this I am afraid I shall
have to leave in haste

Your own Mother
M. F. B. L. A. S.

they made, upon individual property, and
individual rights. These votes prove that
Mr Fillmore - the known Nothing Candidate for the
Presidency - does not recognize the right
of property in slaves, or else they establish
the fact, that he advocates a more latit-
-udinous and monstrous doctrine with
regard to the construction of the Constitu-
-tion, and the powers of Congress under
it than Federalism itself ever counten-
-ed for. He is, it would seem, a Progressive
Federalist.

John Can and Vice
advise you about
this matter -
I have not time to go
up -



Ino. A. Anderson Esq.
Marshall Turnpike
Miss.

Round Hill

1856

Northampton Oct-1st.

My Dear Brother,

Ever since I left-
home I've been trying to write-
you, and let you know some-
thing of our movements, but as
you have probably heard thro'
Mother my eyes have been so
weak, it has been as much as I
dare do to keep Mother posted.
Knowing that you all heard
from her I thought it was suf-
ficient. I've not heard a word
from you however since leaving
home except that Bro. Butler
wrote you had been in Mem-
phis about ten days before he
was, so I determined to drop you
a line to see if it would not

being a reply for I am so anx-
-ious to hear from you. I want
to know how darling little Minnie will
have borne the summer heat,
and how you are getting along
and all about you my dear
brother. It seems to me now that
I am in the midst of Black
Republicanism. I love you more
than ever, and feel if possible
more interest in all that concerns
you and yours. I have been here
a month and I think have
derived much benefit. Whether
to attribute my improvement to
the pure mountain air and
moderate exercise or to our doc-
tor's skill I cannot say, a little
of both I expect. It is certainly
the most beautiful spot I ever
beheld, and were it not for the
people I should be content to

at na
day
ists. I
induce
I hear
Miller
17th. I
be at
impro
be here
shall
Washin
not all
best loo
to will
brother

Direct

and - remain a long time, but every
I want day I become more disgusted
(minion with Garkees and Abolition-
ists. I don't think I could be
induced to live among them.

I heard thro' cards sent to Mrs
that Miller of Sate's marriage on the
Black 17th. I can't tell yet when I shall
be at home for if I continue to
improve as I have done I shall
be here several weeks and then
shall stop in New York and
Washington. But my eyes will
not allow me to write more. My
best love to Molly and tell her
to write me and you my dear
brother - ~~write to~~

Yours affec Sister
Carra A. Bulke

Direct to

230 Madison Street
New York.



Mr. J. A. Anderson.
Memphis
Care of J. W. Edmondson of Tennessee

Pontiac, October 11th '56

My dear Husband

We arrived safely enough at
the Gilpatrick's last night about 8 o'clock
and as you requested I write just as
soon as convenient after our arrival.

All were surprised but welcomed us
warmly. Sister seems considerably re-
vived in spirit. There were many very
many kind inquiries for you and why
didn't you come with us, say one asked.

I wish indeed it had been so you
could have come, for I never love to be
separated from one so dear, and I know
too too hard for you to be away from
our darling Minnie. She bore the trip
bravely but became very much fatigued
and tired of the carriage.

This evening we went over to Brother
and met there Aunt Sue Miller & Mrs.
Erskine Miller. Amyella has improved
very much, looks much better than

Helena Ark. Sep. 25. 54

My Dear John,

It has now been five weeks since I have performed my duty in the P.R. Societal office. This will account to you for the non-receipt of the paper. We received however two of your "Pettis" communications, & I will try to get the papers containing them & send to you to-day. If it is not encroaching upon time more valuable I would like very much for you to continue them. Thus far they are good very good and agree in every particular with my views on the subjects treated.

Write me any way & tell me your plans for the future. Let me know if I can in any manner assist you. Our Teacher here has an assistant now employed. If you would accept may be I can get you another assistant's place. My best love to Mary & Minnie. Kiss them both as often as you please.

You crowded to death with work this week. Excuse this scrawl -

Your brother
Butler P. Anderson

You didn't know Mrs. Chickson was dead a
Protestant Minister whom I think you can
not fail to remember. He was sick a
long long while and must have suffered
a great deal. How many sad deaths
there have been in Pontiac.

This evening in ^{company} from "Brothers" we
met poor Mother Anderson. Such a Mother
those poor dear children have lost.

Mrs. Anderson was truly an ornament
in addition to any society and how
sadly will she be missed by the
poor suffering invalid, for her good
kind and attentive nurse was she.
She was one whom you esteemed very
highly.

Well I must leave such sad subjects
and beg you will write to me often
and intimately with regards to your affairs
in all in which you are interested.
Did you know we have been married
of us for years today? I hope you have
plenty of thought of Minnie and I many times
and as I know you must have done.
She sends many kisses to her dear Father
and could she speak she would I
know would beg Father to take such
good care of himself for her and Mother's

dear cake - I will write again as soon
as I hear from you. Hoping that may
be very soon. Give much love to Butter &
love for me and tell them please to
write

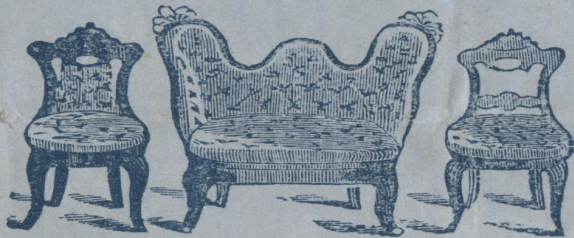


Mr John Adair Anderson
Care of Butter & Anderson
Helena
Arkansas.

I cannot close without praying that we
may both trust in the loving arm which
hath ever been around us. Pray for
aid that our struggles to be more worthy of
that Heavenly care may be blessed with glorious
success. God bless you my husband pray earnestly
your devoted wife Mollie.

MEMPHIS, Nov 17th 1856

Mr John A Anderson



Bought of **H. M. GROSVENOR,**
PIANO FORTE, MELODEON,
FURNITURE AND CARPET DEALER,

Curtain Goods, Cornices, Transparent Shades, Matresses of all kinds, &c.,
MAIN STREET, BETWEEN MADISON AND MONROE.

1	Wal Bureau	19	00	
1	" Washstand	3	25	
1	Callon & Mattings	7	00	
1	Raz. Rocker	3	50	
1	Glass		75	
1	Rattan Rocker	1	25	
1	Boxing Matting & Cartage	2	25	
1	Mrs. Anne R. chair & payment			\$ 37 00
	H. M. Grosvenor			By Lewis 8 15 00

185

MEMPHIS



FURNITURE AND CARPET DEALER,
CURTAIN GOODS, CORNICES, TRANSPARENT SHADES, MATTRESSES OF ALL KINDS, &c.,
PIANO FORTE, MELODEON,
Bought of H. M. GROSVEENOR,
MAIN STREET, BETWEEN MADISON AND MONROE.



Helena Arkansas
November 17th / 36

Dear Father

According to promise I write
the day we got here. This morning at
8 o'clock we reached Helena, came
down on the Col. Leaman in White
River Park the quick trip from here
this was the pleasantest thing connected
with the boat. Mr. Humphrey we met
with Patton & Otto their fine boy &
Otto's sister Mollie Adair. They all leave
for Washington City on Thursday or
Friday and Mrs. Bybee goes with them
to see poor Cara who is sick in
New York, she went to New York
months improved from Northampton
Water Cure, but exerted herself too much
and is down again. Mrs. Bybee is
so sympathetic about her that she
goes on with them.

Minnie has been getting even since we
left home but poor Laura is delicate
had a Chill on Sunday and one
again today. Mr. A. thinks now we
have got Laura he will present the
third one. I sincerely hope so for I
can do nothing but nurse Minnie all
the time that Laura is awake.
I saw Ben Cook in Memphis, he
left Pontiac Saturday and said all were
well when he left. I am anxious
to hear from Sister.

I was with Kate a great deal in Mr.
and she looks well and speaks of
going home next Monday to be
with you all on Thanksgiving and she
was going to write to you soon, she
seems very happy and God grant she
may be.

Tell Edie please don't be uneasy about
the Carpet sack I was compelled to bring
home and will only send it to her
by a good opportunity which I think will
come soon.

In Memphis I met Mrs. Robins (Mrs. Mon-
wife) that was and she told me it
had turned out that all the Clapton

when we parted and Katy darling little
Katy is truly a beautiful child - such
delicate beautiful features and form as a
Lily - I know you would perfectly devour
her with kisses if you could see her
Minnie and she took quite a fancy to
each other and it would do Father's
heart good to see how much love
Bob loves his little Queen Minnie

Ameyilla gave Minnie a beautiful white
Shanghai Rose - You are glad to hear of
this present I know - I am mighty
proud of it certain and shall carry it
home with me hoping somewhere to
get a nice Nocturne -

It would make you feel sad to see
the changes in Pontiac since we were
here before our marriage - Sometimes
in thinking I feel as though if I could
but find some spot unchanged and could
go to that spot alone I could wipe my very
tears away - God bless you my little
boy - Many happy hours to both of us
have been passed at this dear old place
I think of all that beautiful time and
have my heart filled with happiness
at the remembrance - God bless and
make you happy again as you were
then -

no family had been poisoned. She could not
delicate think tell me the particulars for want
of time. The negroes had confessed
it and are now in Jail. Mrs C
is still so ill she can turn herself
in bed. I will write more when
I hear more. It is horrible to
think of it.

Mr. and Butler are out or maybe
they would send some messages.

Tell Joe she must write to him and
Eddie. I shall hope he will fulfil
his promise and write often. Helen
must remember I will answer her
dear letters when they come.

Remember very kindly to the servants
and let me know how you all
come on dear Father as often as you
can with your own hand.

About Cousin Felt you are Frazer's little Car-
riage and begged me to write
for it immediately, seemed worried
that I had not brought it. I
sent it when you can receive
it perhaps if you are done sending
your Cotton to La Fayette Mr Taylor
would send it to the Depot for
you

Let me know when to expect it.
Now let me hear from home as soon
as possible and give much love to
all there. Grandma sends many kisses
to all especially dear "Grand Father"
and you young child
Mary E. Anderson



Mrs. A. J. Anderson
Marshall County
Marshall County
Mississippi

44 Ludger
J. P. Farrow

S. A. Butler
mch 3 5.50

Recd Jan 22 1888
on dollar on the
within

SHIPPED,

in good order, by J. H. Shipman on board the St
Isidore whereof Isidore is Master, now lying
at the Port of **New Orleans**, and bound for Bellevue

Mr. A. Anderson

Bellevue

Two Trunks

Charges in Bellevue
Ft. to N. Orleans
Gray

\$4.90
1.35
\$6.75

Marked and numbered as in the margin, and are to be delivered, in the like good
order, at the Port of Bellevue (the dangers of Rivers, Seas,
Navigation and Fire only excepted,) unto Mr. A. Anderson
or Assigns, he or they paying Freight for the said
Charges in 7/8
with primage and average accustomed.

In Witness Whereof, the Master or Agent of the said Vessel, has signed J
Bills of Lading, one of which being accomplished, the others to stand void.

New Orleans, Dec 17 185 6

Shipman

Washington, July 18. 1856.

My Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure now to enclose your Bounty Land warrant for 80 acres. which warrant I hope will reach you notwithstanding the prying curiosity of sundry Post Masters located along the route.

You will see by the newspapers that Congress is engaged in the consideration of unimportant trifles. The gutta serena melo drama is nearly wound up, the last scene only remaining to be performed. This has been changed from Washington to S. Carolina, where in a few days Meigs Brooks and Kittle will be triumphantly re-elected to Congress, as they should be. The vote of Congress or rather of the House is against them, but such a strain! Any honorable man should be proud of his situation when at difference with Black Republicans.

The Democrats have entered on the Presidential canvass in fine spirits and well appointed materials for its vigorous prosecution. Fillmore's popularity in Maryland is still very great yet the more discerning whigs see that every vote given for him will, in effect, be a vote for Fremont, and many are joining our ranks. These new made Democrats are very useful to us, for to convince their zeal

for the welfare of the party they have joined they are quite liberal with their money. The Blackamores in the northern states headed by Fremont but really command by Seward will work every species of fraud and deception to defeat us. Seward cannot be known as the standard bearer but combining and managing several cliques he has power over the whole concern. I hope the Tennesseeans will see the true issue and give up party for the good of the Country.

Congress may adjourn in August, but I think most likely not until September. None of the appropriation bills are acted on yet and the Civil and Diplomatic bill not touched.

This session is unpropitious for the proposed amendment of the Penning Law which your Brother Butler desired to be attended to. All the members with whom I have conversed on the subject are averse to its being brought forward this session. I saw Patlow a few days since. he does not often come into the Senate and as I am excluded from the floor of the House, we do not often meet. He was well.

My best compliments to your mother and accept assurances of the high regard of yr friend

John A. Anderson Esq.

H. C. Williams

Care of H. D. Bulkley Esq
Memphis, Tenn.

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John A. Anderson Esq.

H. C. Williams

Care of H. D. Bulkley Esq.
Memphis, Tenn.

MEMPHIS AND NEW ORLEANS PACKET LINE.

Helena Dec 21 1856

Mr L A Anderson

To Steamer JOHN SIMONDS, Dr.

For Freight on
2 Trunks

Charges

00

and

1 00

6 75

7 75

Wages

25

8 00

15 00

\$5.50

On or before the 1st day of Nov
next we or either of us promise to
pay S. N. Chamberlain five dollars and
fifty cents. Dec. 2. 1856 J. A. Bellis & Co